GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3333
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2004
PROPER MANAGEMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRESS
Mollah Shri Hannan

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals for the proper management of Government Press and redressal of grievances of the Press employees from the National Federation of Printing, Stationery and Publication employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the modernisation of the press is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The details are given in the enclosed Annexure.

(c)&(d): The Government has already decided to modernize 11 Government of India Presses, vide their decision dated 16.8.02 and to transfer/close 3 Text Book Presses at Bhubaneshwar, Mysore and Chandigarh, Government of India Presses at Shimla and Gangtok, Government of India Forms Store, Kolkata and Office of Assistant Director (Outside Printing), Kolkata. The above decision in respect of closure/transfer is under review by the Government at present.

Modernization of Government of India Presses has already started. Procurement of machinery required for modernization is in progress. Civil and Electrical Works for installation of these machines are already underway and nearing completion in most of the Presses. Recruitment Rules for Group C & D industrial and non-industrial staff have been revised and notified keeping in view the requirement of modernized set up. Restructuring of staff, their training and redeployment will be done after Government takes final decision on retention of other Presses, earlier scheduled to be closed. The scheme of modernization is an ongoing process and linked to proposed review decision of the Government.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA USQ.NO. 3333 FOR 21.12.2004.

(a) All the existing Printing Presses/Units should be allowed to function maintaining their Status-Quo ante 30.9.2002, till completion of modernization of the ear-marked Presses and staff of letter Presses should be adjusted in modernized Presses by giving one time relaxation of Recruitment and Promotional Rules for training and absorption;

(b) The Government of India Forms Store, Kolkata should not be disturbed in any way;

(c) The 3 Text Books Printing Presses at Bhubaneshwar, Chandigarh and Mysore should be kept operational. the Ministry of Human Resource Development may be requested to continue feeding these Presses with work;

(d) The entire position may be reviewed after modernization of Presses in fully operational condition taking the respective organization of employees and workers, National Federation of Printing, Stationery and Publication Employees, New Delhi in confidence.